

Ser. No. 10/652,643

Remarks

Claims 1-20 were pending in the application. Claims 1-20 were rejected. No claims were merely objected to and no claims were allowed. By the foregoing amendment, no claims are canceled, claims 1 and 4 are amended, and no claims are added. No new matter is presented.

Interview Summary

Applicants thank the examiner for the courtesy of a telephonic interview between the undersigned and Examiner K. Y. Lin on September 7, 2005. The Section 112 and 102 rejections were discussed. No agreement on the merits was reached however it was agreed that Applicants would submit a declaration supporting Applicants' position. The examiner suggested that the specification be amended to correspond with the amendment to and discussion of claim 1.

Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112(1). The rejection is respectfully traversed. The separate formation is inherent in the example given and discussed in the specification and as noted in the enclosed Declaration.

Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112(2). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. It was questioned whether the term "separately formed"... "referred to forming the disk in a separate process step or to forming the disk in a separate mold cavity." As noted in the enclosed Declaration, distinction is believed irrelevant. Nevertheless, the term has been amended to merely identify "separate". For further clarification, claim 4 has been amended to identify the manifold as a single manifold. This is not new matter and does not raise new issues (see, e.g., former claim 16).

The specification has also been amended to correspond.

Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1, 2, 4, and 8-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by either Blazek (US 4,702,298) or Blazek et al. (US 4,170,256 or 4,066,116). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection in view of the arguments previously submitted on May 23,

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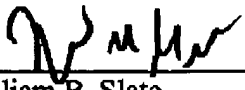
2005 as supplemented by the attached September 27, 2005 Declaration of Steven J. Bullied.

Claims Rejections-35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 3, 5-7, and 11-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the previously cited patents. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection in view of the arguments previously submitted on May 23, 2005 as supplemented by the attached September 27, 2005 Declaration of Steven J. Bullied.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 1-20 are in condition for allowance. Please charge any fees or deficiency or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account of record.


Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 28, 2005

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed this 28th day of September, 2005 to the USPTO at Fax No. 1-571-273-8300.


Antoinette Sullo